

जी पार्थसारथी
G Parthasarathi



संयुक्त सचिव (पब्लिक)
गृह मंत्रालय
भारत सरकार
JOINT SECRETARY (PUBLIC)
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

D.O. No. 1/8/2025-Public

March 15, 2025

Dear Sir,

The Padma Awards, namely, Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri, are amongst the highest civilian awards of the country. Instituted in 1954, these Awards are announced on the occasion of the Republic Day every year. The award seeks to recognize 'work of distinction' and is given for distinguished and exceptional achievements/service in all fields/disciplines, such as Art, Literature and Education, Sports, Medicine, Social Work, Science and Engineering, Public Affairs, Civil Service, Trade and Industry etc. All persons without distinction of race, occupation, position or sex are eligible for these Awards.

2. It is the convention to invite nominations for these Awards from all States/ UT Governments as also from several other sources to enable broad-based consideration.

3. The nominations/recommendations for the Padma Awards will be received only online through Rashtriya Puraskar portal <https://awards.gov.in> designed for this purpose. The nominations / recommendations should contain all relevant details specified in the format available on the above portal, including a citation in narrative form (maximum 800 words), clearly bringing out the distinguished and exceptional achievements/service of the person recommended in his/her respective field/discipline. While recommending a person online, it should be ensured that all the necessary details are properly filled. The steps to be taken for making online recommendations are available on above said portal <https://awards.gov.in>. A copy of the statutes and rules governing these Awards is also available on the website: <https://padmaawards.gov.in>.

4. It has been observed in the past that while nominations are received in respect of a large number of persons; there could, however, be several talented persons who are left out of consideration despite exceptional contribution in their field. Often many such persons may get overlooked primarily for the reason that they may not seek publicity or attention in the public domain. It is, therefore, requested to make concerted efforts in identifying such persons whose excellence and achievements deserve to be recognized and make suitable nominations in their favour. It goes without saying that recognition of such deserving persons will only add to the prestige of these Awards.

5. In the above background, I request you to kindly send suitable nominations for the Padma Awards to be announced on the occasion of Republic Day, 2026. In this regard, it is suggested that you may constitute a Special Search Committee for identifying, considering and finalizing your recommendations/nominations. While finalizing recommendations, the following points may be kept in view:-

- (i) Persons recommended are pre-eminently worthy of the Awards, looking at their life-time achievements. The criteria for selection should invariably be 'excellence plus' and highest standards should be applied while recommending persons for these awards. The existence of an element of public service in the achievements of the person recommended for the award would be a desirable factor.

B of Secretary
Home Department

Receipt No. 132

Date: 27/3/25

- (ii) As the Padma Award is the second highest civilian award of the country, it should also be considered whether the recommended person has earlier been given any National award or a State award in his/her respective field.
- (iii) Efforts may be made to identify talented persons from amongst women, weaker sections of the society, SCs & STs, divyang persons, etc., who deserve to be considered for the award.
- (iv) The decoration is normally not conferred posthumously. However, in highly deserving cases, Government could consider giving an award posthumously if the demise of the person proposed to be honoured has been recent, say within a period of one year preceding the Republic Day on which it is proposed to announce the award.
- (v) A higher category of Padma Award can be considered in respect of a person who has earlier been conferred an award, provided a period of at least five years has elapsed. However, in exceptionally deserving cases, a relaxation can also be considered.
- (vi) Government servants including those working with PSUs, except Doctors and Scientists, are not eligible for Padma Awards.

6. It is important that nomination/recommendation from your State/UT Government comes through a process. You may consider constituting a Committee to identify candidates for Padma Awards in your State/UT and nominate the top deserving candidates keeping in view the body of their work.

7. The online nominations/ recommendations for the Padma Awards have started from **15th March, 2025** and the last date for nominations is **31st July, 2025**. The cut-off date may please be strictly adhered to as nominations/ recommendations received only during 15th March, 2025 to 31st July, 2025 will be considered. It may also be noted that the nominations/recommendations received through online mode only will be considered.